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ABSTRACT

This reader is intended for use in a bilingual education setting. It consists of a traditional story in Koyukon Athabascan (Central Dialect). An English translation is attached. (AMH)

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DOTSON' SA

TAAŁEEBAAY LAATŁGHAAN

Madeline Solomon
yugh noholnigee
ant'aago k'adonts'idnee

Eliza Jones
hałda neeydinaaŧłdik

Go isee ee dinaanin ḵoḵ'a
huk'itł'eeyaga hukanaaga
nidinlidik da dl̄itseen
ant'aago bidoh̄zil-eeghee
Tsoł Dłil tłeeḵ'a.

National Endowment for the
Humanities aahaa dinaaghu=
nee-adniy ts'a hoh̄aa nidinaa=
dlidigee ant'aago bidoh̄zil-=
eeghee.

Koyukon Athabaskan

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HOW THE RAVEN

KILLED THE WHALE

Told by Madeline Solomon

Transcribed by Eliza Jones

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DOTSON' SA TAAɣEEBAAY LAATɬGHAAN

Yaga gheel ts'ahat'aan dagheel kaayah hool-on da halook'at soo-oɣ dit'aan.

Dagheel didnee hee eego Dotson' Sa. "Yoogh don t'aas ee la-aa k'aalyoo yoonts'a yoonee bin anohaadeeghadidiytɬ," nee. "Nagh eet hats'a taaghaskaaɣ da, dibaa siyiɣ k'oghudakaak," nee.

Eet gheel go zahga dinaa yok'aal "see," nee.

Eenda "anaa' nagh leegan," yiɣnee gheelhee. Dont'aa nagh sagh da-a siyiɣ diɣt'aana." Go taaɣeebaay dinaa gheel go diyɣnee hee.

Ts'ah tɣ'eegho diyneeɣdlinaa eenda

ghee! go biyiɁ haaydeekaanee. AhuyiɁ k'udaa yoonee yit neeghohneekaan da, k'udaa hadibeedo' taahaldlooɁ. Eet haɁda tłaa nonga neeɁtugh konaadinak eego Dotson' Sa. AhooɁ gheel go "sughuda-aa," yiɁnee. "K'udaa tɁ'eegho haɁda duhuɁnaagh ts'a t'aas dinohoodiyoh, dongu tonotɁ'ok'oditɁiy," yiɁnee. "TɁaa yaga k'oolaaleeɁtɁ'on," yiɁnee dahoon haɁda go k'aɁts'a naadla-on dahoon haɁda, "ts, ts, ts," nee eego adin. Ts'uhu, "tɁaa ee la-aa k'aalyoo ant'aa ee tɁaa nongu yit hahdeetodiɁ dido-ots'a haɁda tsaay naahadineelk'uh," yiɁnee ts'uh huhudeeɁk'on. AhooɁ hundin, k'udaa yik'odohdeetaatɁ-on. "Hadakaalkugh ant'aay koon aneek'ahgheeɁtɁiy," yiɁnee.

"Ho! hu-adeenk'a abaa nilaan hee'," yiɁnee.

"Nideen yaga laa," nee ts'uh go dakaalkugh yuh naatɁtsut. Dahoono saak aahaa eet halneek. Ts'uhu nonła

yuhuneek'agheeɁtɁiy. Ts'uh go taaɁeebaay adeek'uh uhdidiyoh. Dakaalkugh uhunee= k'agheeɁtɁiy ts'uh go bits'in yuh no-unhaa-eeleen'.

Ts'uhu, "La-aa k'aal kaa ant'aa ee koon neeɁdeeɁgho naahayolkik," yiɁnee.

Ts'uhu diyneeɁdlinaa eenda koon k'udaa neeɁdeeɁgho nok'aheeditoh. Ts'uh eego taaɁeebaay yoogh yugh hugheehon' k'adeey= gheeɁ-aan' eehoo, eenda tɁ'in yaan' nilaan ts'uh nonɁ tɁiydagheeɁghaɁ. Dahoon go Dotson' Sa haɁda k'inaaɁdon'.

Eet daanga k'udaa neeɁ-ugh hataal-ots dagheel ee holiɁ gho eeltɁ'idee. NonɁ yuh yik'ots'a neek'ok'ineekuy go Dotson' Sa. Eet k'udaa bak'aytaalyo dagheel ee holiɁ gho eeltɁ'idee. Eet gheel go yaanok'idokuytɁ, yaanok'idokuytɁ k'a diyɬ-aan.

"Haa! hunik'idoseeɁ-aan," yiɁnee.

"Haa! sughda-aa doogh baahaa eendlouyee," yiɁnee. Dahoon yaahudineeheey k'a diyɬ-aan.

Eet gheel ee k'adaa, "Doogh baahaa eendlo=guyee," yiłnee dahoon yikon ts'aak'ineegotł. Ts'ah yits'eega yah ho-anhaalgotł dagheel ee, "Yoogh donłaa' hay eenlaan," yiłnee dahoon nin' t'oh ninoydinaalgas.

Ts'a haahaa k'adaa yilaatłghaan. Ts'a nidaats'a hak'a ghula[illegible] yakaaneeneelit eehu.

Eet k'adaa haanodeedakaan dahoon k'adaa k'iditaaldlee'. Nonłts'a noneets'a naaghdakaałł dahoono gheel go didnee hee.

"Dont'aa łło biyił notisakaalaa haan sughada-a."

"Dont'aa łło biyił notisakaalaa haan sughada-a," ts'idnee.

Hayił handin, "Yee dinaa do-oogh doogh t'aa' haan t'aan biyił taalkaan tłigida dohadnee," nee gheelhee go zahga dinaa.

Hayił, "Aa! sughda-a no-eedakaanee', ts'idnee.

Dahoono hałda too tł'ok yee hałda dineek'itłkon. Atł'iyłło hałda k'its'eega

ts'aaynaaneegaz go too tɬ'ok yee yeetɬkonee.

Eet gheel go k'ʉdaa hʉtaadlinik "Yee! sʉghdaa' bits'a hooditɬ-ʉ, bits'a hooditɬ-ʉ dahoono ant'aa yaga. Yoodo zo k'iyon ts'ilyo eeyda ooneeɬdiy. Dooghaa naah-an yoodo dotɬin zo dodeetaaɬit'ak ahooɬ tɬaak'adla doltɬ'ɪt," yiɬnee. "Ts'ʉhʉ bits'a doneets'a haɬda yidahoono dʉhʉtɬ-aan yiɬnee. "Hʉyiɬ hʉndin nodo hʉndin yʉgh daghaagh deetaalyo. Yaga yoodʉgʉ k'ʉdaa, k'udaa yits'idoyah ts'a ghahoɬ. Ahooɬ dotoneeɬ aahaa yoodo doyaga zon. Eet go oongidziɬ, ahooɬ nodo' doyaga zo bidolo' yaan' tidak'ʉytɬ," yiɬnee. Go k'inoɬilaat dagheelhee, taaɬeebaay aldlaat ts'in!

"O ts'ʉhʉ k'ʉdaa go sʉghdaa' daghaagh= deetaalyo eehʉ da nodʉgʉ hʉk'adla doltɬ'ida eeyda doogh gho k'its'o-aga-aan. Ahooɬ doogh bits'eega yaan' sahtɬ k'aant'aay aahaa litɬgiɬtɬ ts'ʉh eeyda ts'aanaansgas eeyda ant'aa nʉgh dolkonee," nee. "Heen', nʉgh non

ghu tonoleedakoy," yiɁnee. O ts'uh don ghu tonoyeeɁakon.

AhooɁ hundin, "Sidnaa' ho nidaats'a dint'aa ts'a go dinaa hutaagh daaɁigit," yiɁnee gheelhee.

Ts'uh gheel, "Nugh eesee eenaa' daadiyɁnee. 'Ho nidaats'a dint'aa ts'a nugh dinaahutaagh daaɁigit', yiɁnee," yiɁnee gheelhee.

"Aa hooleeɁ ts'a ant'aa ee dint'aa," yiɁnee.

HOW THE RAVEN KILLED THE WHALE

Once upon a time there was a village, and they were having a spring carnival.

And the crow said, "A long time ago our grandparents used to go to the lake across there, upriver. I'm going up there. Who should go with me?" he asked.

And then the camp robber man said, "Me."

"Don't go, you're too skinny," the crow told him. "What about my cousin, he should go with me." He meant the whale man. The whale man didn't really want to go with him, but he did.

And so they landed up there and pulled up their canoes. And then the crow rushed back to the lake. He came back and said, "Cousin, it is the way it's never been for a long time. Back there there's all kinds of things in the lake." He told the whale man to listen. Then he put his face sideways and said, "Ts, ts, ts, ts." And then he said, "The old folks used to make lunch before they go back there." So they built a fire. And then he started talking tricky to him. "They used to barbecue their big toes, too."

"Wow!," said the whale, "doesn't that hurt?"

"No! it doesn't. Look," said the raven. And he cut off his big toe. And he spit on the wound, and put it on the barbecue stick. So the whale did that too, and put it on to barbecue. And the oil just started running down from it.

Then the raven said to him, "The old folks used to exchange the toes."

So the whale didn't want to. But they exchanged their lunch. So the whale kind of ate on the raven's toe. But it was bony. So he threw it in the fire. While he did that, the raven filled up on the whale's toe.

Then they went back to the lake. That's when the whale fell through the lake moss. The raven walked out on the moss. The whale was following him and fell through the moss. Then the raven started walking around and around him. And biting chunks off of him.

Then the whale said, "Hey! What are you doing to me?"

Then the raven said to him, "Oh! I'm trying to make you lighter." Then he said to him, "I'm taking some weight off of you." And the raven pulled the whale's guts out from behind. He pulled them in and out under the trees, and said, "Be a roots for ever and ever." So he killed the whale that way. And I don't know how long he stayed there feasting on him.

And when he left there he started singing. As he was coming back down the river he was saying,

"Why didn't I come with him,
My cousin,
Why didn't I come back with him,
My cousin."

"Hey! there was nothing wrong with that man that went with him. What is he saying again," said the camp robber man.

And then the raven said, "Oh! Did my brother-in law come back?"

And he had a dish behind him in the canoe. And there was some guts in it.

And he started telling a story. "Oh! My cousin, I wasn't close to him, I wasn't

close to him when an eagle came out at the top of the bluff. He shot at it with an arrow. What do you expect, it started to fall and then it fell in the crack of the bluff. And I was trying to come down to him as fast as I could. And then he started to climb the bluff after it. He was almost up to it, climbing to it. When what do you expect, down he fell. I paddled to him as fast as I could. But down he went in the water. I saw only the whites around his mouth as he was going down the river. He turned to whale.

"And so I tried to climb where my brother-in-law climbed in vain. And then I hooked only the guts and that's all I got," he said. "That's what's in the dish.

"Wife! take it and bring it up to your mother." So she brought it up to her mother. And then her mother said, "My child! What's the matter with it, it doesn't smell so good."

So she said to him, "My mother said this about it, 'What's the matter with it, it doesn't smell so good.'"

And he said, "Oh! It got sour, that's why."